IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 2 with the following:

The present invention provides a method and apparatus for managing resources in a wireless communication system. In one embodiment, resource management is facilitated by providing a method and apparatus for extending or diminishing the "lifespan" of a "session" upon detecting a "session renewal"—i.e., an event or condition that delays the lapse/expiration of the session lifespan (i.e., extends the lifespan) or conversely, an event or condition that ~~causes~~ hastens the lapse of the session lifespan (i.e., causes an earlier lapse of the session). A "session," as used herein, refers to a particular user terminal's right or ability to access one or more (wireless) communication channels to exchange data vis-à-vis a wireless link with a base station (and other devices/networks coupled thereto). Such channels may represent particular time, frequency, code, or space channels utilized for wireless communication between a user terminal and a base station. In one embodiment, a session represents the period of time in which a user terminal is registered with a base station and can thus access one or more channels to exchange data with the base station. Therefore, a session "lifespan" represents a length of time subsequent to which, upon lapse of the lifespan, the session typically terminates and a remote user terminal must re-register with a base station to establish a session and to gain access to one or more wireless communication channels in which data may be exchanged between the user terminal and the base station.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 21 with the following:

In one embodiment, the base station detects when the user terminal ceases to send or receive data, and subsequently keeps the channel active for a relatively short period of time, e.g., 3 frames or 15 milliseconds in one embodiment, to account for any additional data that may need

to be transmitted. Then, the base station moves the channel into the closed state, performs any "clean-up" operations, and then moves the channel into the idle state (where it may available to other sessions and/or other user terminals), at which time the lifespan timer may be restarted (if stopped or paused) and/or reset to the original or a different lifespan. If no renewal events are detected thereafter and before the lapse/expiration of the lifespan, the session will terminate and the user terminal will lose its right to access idle channels. Therefore, in one embodiment, the transition of the channel state from idle to active acts as a session renewal to stop, reset, extend, or otherwise delay the session lifespan. Similarly, in one embodiment, the transition of the channel state from active back to idle acts as a session lifespan resume/reset, assuming that it is the last or only channel that makes such a ~~transitionfor~~ **transition for** the session; if additional channels for the session are still active, then the channel state, then the session lifespan will remain stopped (or otherwise delayed).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 8 with the following:

Figure 7 is a block diagram of a base station employing smart antenna technology and a session timing and renewal mechanism, according to one embodiment of the invention. As shown, a system 20, which may be part of a base station, in one embodiment, includes an antenna array 22, which in turn includes a number of antenna elements. The antenna array 22 is utilized for transmitting a downlink signal to a remote user terminal and for receiving an uplink signal from the remote user terminal. Of course, the system 20 may communicate with several remote user terminals, and as such, may process a number of signals each associated with a remote user terminal or other signal source. Furthermore, the system 20 may be employed in each of several base stations in a wireless communication network, where each base station uses a given set of channels to communicate with remote user terminal units within a given

geographic region. Such remote user terminals may be stationary or mobile, and may communicate voice and/or data with the system 20 using PPP, ~~TC/IP~~ **TCP/IP** and/or other data or voice protocols. In one embodiment, each such remote user terminal is coupled to an external data processing device (e.g., a laptop computer, a PDA, a gaming device or other computing device) using an Ethernet or PPP-over-Ethernet (PPPoE) connection to allow such device to exchange data with the system 20 vis-à-vis a wireless communication link established between the user terminal and the system 20.